

### **REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action dated 31 July 2003, the applicant requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-5, 8-15, 22, 24-29, 31-35, 37-48, 50-53, and 55-57 are pending in this application. Claims 1-5, 8-15, 22, 24-29, 31-35, 37-48, 50-53, and 55-56 are allowed, and claim 57 is rejected. None of the claims have been amended.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

The Office Action indicated that claims 1-5, 8-15, 22, 24-29, 31-35, 37-48, 50-53, and 55-56 are allowed.

#### **Rejection of Claims Under §103**

Claim 57 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaya et al. (U.S. 5,467,306, Kaya) in view of Hu et al. (U.S. 4,736,317, Hu). The applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 57 recites a system comprising, among other elements, means for controlling current in a channel region based on an input signal.

Claim 57 is a means-plus-function claim under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 6. MPEP 2181. The Office Action has not provided an explanation or a rationale as to why the combination of Kaya and Hu shows an equivalent to the corresponding elements disclosed in the specification. MPEP 2182, 2183.

The applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Kaya and Hu does not show an equivalent to the corresponding elements disclosed in the specification under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 6. Claim 57 is not shown or suggested by the combination of Kaya and Hu, and therefore claim 57 is in condition for allowance.

**CONCLUSION**

The applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney at 612-373-6973 to discuss any questions which may remain with respect to the present application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,


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By their Representatives,

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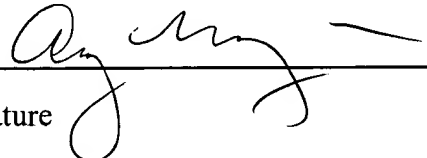
Date 31 October 2003

By

  
Robert E. Mates  
Reg. No. 35,271

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 31st day of October, 2003.

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Name

  
Signature